

**STAFF MEETING MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING
ROOM 113
THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2006
8:30 A.M.**

Commissioners Present: Deb Schorr, Chair
Bernie Heier
Ray Stevens

Commissioners Absent: Bob Workman, Vice Chair
Larry Hudkins

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Trish Owen, Chief Deputy County Clerk
Kristy Mundt, Deputy County Attorney
Ann Taylor, County Clerk's Office

The Chair opened the meeting at 8:31 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM

1 APPROVAL OF STAFF MEETING MINUTES OF TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2006

MOTION: Stevens moved and Heier seconded approval of the Staff Meeting minutes dated July 18, 2006. Stevens, Heier and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

2 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

A. Request from the National Association of County Officials (NACo) for Bi/Multi-Lingual Communication

MOTION: Heier moved and Stevens seconded approval of the addition to the agenda. Heier, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

3 PAY PLAN STEPS - Don Thomas, County Engineer; Don Taute, Personnel Director; John Cripe, Classification and Pay Manager

Don Taute, Personnel Director, noted that concerns had been expressed regarding compression of pay ranges between the "A" (AFSCME) American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees and the "C" (Unrepresented) Employees and said a comprehensive salary study of the "C" (Unrepresented) Class is currently underway.

John Cripe, Classification and Pay Manager, gave a brief update on the salary study.

Taute suggested that further consideration be given to moving to an eight step pay plan for "C" (Unrepresented) Employees and "E" (Excluded) Employees as the "A" (AFSCME) Employees will be moving to an eight step pay plan and failure to do so would add to the compression of pay ranges. He estimated the cost at \$220,000. Taute said direction is also needed on a salary range adjustment for "C" (Unrepresented) and "E" (Excluded) Employees. He said "A" (AFSCME) Employees were offered a 4% Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) and decided to break it down as follows: 3% COLA and 1% into the Post Employment Health Plan (PEHP). The "C" (Unrepresented) and "E" (Excluded) Employees are already receiving a PEHP contribution.

MOTION: Heier moved and Schorr seconded approval of an eight step pay plan for "C" (Unrepresented) and "E" (Excluded) Employees and directed that it be scheduled on a County Board of Commissioners Meeting agenda for formal approval. Heier, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

MOTION: Stevens moved and Heier seconded to allocate a 4% Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) for "C" (Unrepresented) and "E" (Excluded) Employees. Stevens, Heier and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- A. Request from the National Association of County Officials (NACo) for Bi/Multi-Lingual Communication

The Board authorized Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, to submit the information.

- 4 **A) COUNTY CHANGE OF ZONE NO. 06030 COUNTY PRELIMINARY PLAT NO. 06006, PONDEROCA CROSSING, SOUTH 38TH STREET AND MARTELL ROAD; AND B) PLATTING PROCESS - Mike DeKalb, Planning Department**

A) Ponderoca Crossing, County Change of Zone No. 06030, County Preliminary Plat No. 06006

Mike DeKalb, Planning Department, gave an overview of County Change of Zone No. 06030, a request for a change of zone from Agricultural (AG) District to Agricultural Residential District (AGR), and County Preliminary Plat No. 06006, Ponderoca Crossing, a request to develop seven (7) residential acreage lots on property northwest of the corner of South 38th Street and Martell Road (Exhibit A). He said it is an unusual parcel crisscrossed by abandoned railroad right-of-way, creating four separate parts, and said it has been suggested that Outlots A and B could be integrated into the Homestead Trail as a railhead and rest stop. DeKalb said the original staff recommendation to deny the change of zone and preliminary plat was based upon analysis and the conclusion that the area is shown as agriculture in the Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan and as vacant/agriculture in the Roca Comprehensive Plan (one-half of the property proposed for development is in the Village of Roca's jurisdiction). The staff recommendation was later revised to approval based upon approval by the Village of Roca. The Planning Commission has agreed with the revised staff recommendation and voted to recommend approval of the change of zone and conditional approval of the preliminary plat.

Stevens inquired about signage at the Homestead Trail crossing.

DeKalb said the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District (NRD), which owns the Homestead Trail, has granted conditional access to the two lots and will provide the signage necessary to protect the trail.

B) Platting Process

Marvin Krout, Planning Director, appeared and asked whether the Board would be willing to receive a plat straight from the Planning Commission, with conditions, but prior to making revisions. He explained that this could speed up the process and would be consistent with the way the City processes plats.

MOTION: Stevens moved and Heier seconded to ask the Planning Department to make the administrative change to its policy. Stevens, Heier and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

5 TORT CLAIM DEPRECIATION SCHEDULE - Mike Thurber, Corrections Director

Mike Thurber, Corrections Director, gave an overview of Policies and Procedures for Inmate Grievance and Tort Claims (Exhibit B).

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

C. Claim for Review, Payment Voucher No. 79772, \$166.32 from Corrections (Lack of Detailed Receipt)

Thurber said the claim is for meals for the seven individuals that toured a correctional facility in Washington, D.C. (Commissioners Heier and Workman were included in the group). The cost for each meal was \$3.76 over the per diem rate.

Stevens questioned whether the travel was authorized by the Board.

Eagan he believes it was, but will have to research the records.

MOTION: Heier moved and Schorr seconded to approve the claim, up to the per diem rate.

Heier stated that he will personally pay the amount in excess of the per diem rate. He also stated that the Board may need to consider paying overtime when employees are asked to travel on behalf of the County.

ROLL CALL: Heier, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

Bill Jarrett, Chief Deputy Sheriff, appeared and said he believes a review of the County's per diem rates is needed.

Schorr asked Eagan to schedule the item for future discussion.

6 NEW SERVICE DOG - Bill Jarrett, Chief Deputy Sheriff; Sergeant Brent Moore; Deputy Jeremy Schwarz

Bill Jarrett, Chief Deputy Sheriff, requested authorization to purchase a new service dog for the Sheriff's Office, noting \$14,000 has been set aside for the purchase, training and equipping of the new dog.

Sergeant Brent Moore and Deputy Jeremy Schwarz discussed selection and training.

MOTION: Heier moved and Stevens seconded to approve purchase of the dog. Heier, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

NOTE: The Board will take formal action on the purchase agreement with Kasseburg Canine Training Center for one untrained canine to be trained in the areas of patrol operations and detection at the Tuesday, July 25, 2006 Board of Commissioners Meeting.

7 CLAIMS FOR REVIEW (EXPERT WITNESSES) - Dennis Keefe, Public Defender

Dennis Keefe, Public Defender, said the following claims for review are related to expert testimony:

1. Payment Voucher No. 78698, \$3,000 to Joseph Citron for DRE Research
2. Payment Voucher No. 78697, \$3,225 to Jeffrey S. Janofsky for Nebraska DRE/Professional Services

Keefe indicated that similar claims have been paid in the past.

MOTION: Stevens moved and Heier seconded to handle the claims as regular claims at the Tuesday, July 25, 2006 Board of Commissioners Meeting. Heier, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

8 CRISIS CENTER CONTRACT WITH DANNY LEGGIADRO, PH.D - Dean Settle, Community Mental Health Center Director; Scott Etherton, Crisis Center Program Manager

Dean Settle, Community Mental Health Center Director, said that when the Board asked him to try to trim his budget he identified four possible areas of reduction, one of which was a long standing contract for the clinical psychologist at the Crisis Center. He said the County might save \$20,000 to \$25,000 by hiring, rather than contracting, for the service, but cautioned that it may be difficult to find a replacement for Dr. Leggiadro, as it is such a specialized position.

Scott Etherton, Crisis Center Program Manager, distributed copies of a letter he had submitted stating his concerns (Exhibit C).

Discussion followed on whether to send a notice of termination of agreement for mental health services to Dr. Leggiadro (Exhibit D).

MOTION: Stevens moved and Heier seconded to: 1) Remove the clinical psychologist position from the cost saving budget discussions; 2) Direct Dean Settle, Community Mental Health Center Director, to not send a notice of termination of agreement for mental health services to Dr. Leggiadro at this time; and 3) Direct Dave Kroeker, Budget and Fiscal Officer, to reinstate the funds for that position to the Community Mental Health Center budget. Stevens, Heier and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

9 ACTION ITEMS

- A. Maintenance Agreement for Enclosure of Tape Drive Back-Up for City-County Word Processing Servers (Total Cost \$775 - County Share \$387.50)

Item held.

- B. Set Date for One and Six Year Road and Bridge Improvement Program Public Hearing (Wednesday, November 15, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.)

The Board indicated a preference for Tuesday, November 14, 2006; Thursday, November 16, 2006 or Tuesday, November 21, 2006.

10 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

- A. County Board Website

Item held.

- B. County Board Meeting Electronic Voting

Thorpe indicated that the matter has been dropped.

- C. Claim for Review, Payment Voucher No. 79772, \$166.32 from Corrections (Lack of Detailed Receipt)

Item moved forward on the agenda.

- D. Legal Opinion Regarding Refund Claim of William A. Perkins (See Agenda Packet)

Board consensus was to reschedule the item on the Tuesday, July 5, 2006 Board of Commissioners Meeting agenda.

- E. Planning Work Session (Acreage Density Calculations)

The Board scheduled the work session on Tuesday, August 1, 2006 at 11:00 a.m.

- F. Support for 2-1-1 Network (A Single Source of Information About Community Services, Human Services and Critical Intervention)

MOTION: Stevens moved and Heier seconded to lend Lancaster County's name to the state-wide effort. Heier, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

It was also suggested that the 2-1-1 Network be featured prominently on the County's Internet website.

11 DISCUSSION OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS

- A. Lincoln Independent Business Association (LIBA) Budget Monitoring Committee - Stevens

Stevens said the Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) and City budgets were discussed.

- B. Public Building Commission - Hudkins, Workman

No report.

- C. General Assistance (GA) Monitoring Committee - Stevens, Schorr

Schorr said discussion focused on the Drug Assistance Program, Oral Surgery Services, Homeless Work Regulations and the proposed budget.

RETURNING TO ITEM 8

Dave Kroeker, Budget and Fiscal Officer, and recommended that modifications to the proposed budget be made after the public hearing.

Discussion followed with the following suggestions: 1) Have the Community Mental Health Center absorb the cost in its budget, utilizing savings in the general personnel area, with the understanding that the budget may need to be supplemented at mid-year; and 2) Place the item on a list of possible adjustments.

MOTION: Stevens moved to direct Dave Kroeker, Budget and Fiscal Officer, to rescind the previous action to reinstate funds for the clinical psychologist at the Crisis Center and to take the funds back out of the budget.

Schorr offered a friendly amendment to add the item to a list of possible adjustments.

The maker of the motion accepted the friendly amendment.

The motion died for the lack of a second.

Kroeker said he will make the change now to the proposed budget.

12 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Heier moved and Stevens seconded to adjourn the meeting a 11:04 a.m.
Heier, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

Bruce Medcalf
Lancaster County Clerk